



Department of Curriculum and Instruction

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FROM: Dr. Leslie A. Suters
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College of Education
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DATE: 5/4/12

RE: Jessica Torres

This letter is in support of Jessica Torres as an applicant for an elementary or middle school teaching position. I instructed Ms. Torres in her math & science, methods courses as well as a practicum field placement in 6th grade math at Gresham Middle School in Knox County, Fall 2011. She has a strong desire to teach and exhibits considerable ability with her creative planning and organization skills. She has a particular strength in the STEM fields and I'd love to see her impact at the elementary or middle school level in this field of need. As she concludes her student teaching, Jessica has found her teacher voice! She has developed an understanding of the responsibilities and expectations of a professional teacher and she will create a positive atmosphere, conducive to learning in any classroom setting.

Jessica showed growth in her instructional skills as a teacher and strengthened her classroom management skills during practicum. She was able to efficiently plan and implement standards-based as well as engaging lessons for her students that were modeled in her methods courses. Her mentor stated that she was an asset to the math classroom and took initiative and responsibility without being told. During her practicum, she planned for instruction with differentiation in mind in order to meet the needs of the varied learners in her classroom. She genuinely cares for each student and takes considerable time and thought with planning instruction and assessment.

I highly recommend Ms. Torres for employment in a K-8 position. She has the confidence and knowledge to make an excellent addition to any school team.

If you have further questions, please contact me at the above address or at my cell number (865) 604-8158.